



Name: _____

Marine Science I Course Outline

Mr. Libretto (libretto.e@deerparkschools.org)

Room 204

Course Website: <http://dpmarine.wikispaces.com>

Textbook: "Oceanography in the 21st Century" by Robert Stewart (handed out by chapter and available online)

Extra Help:

- **Tuesdays** after school (2:20) in Rm. 204.
- Other days I may be available if requested ahead of time.
- Through Electronic Mail (I check my e-mail every day).

Marine Science I studies the ocean and its interactions with and effect on the biosphere.

The topics we will be looking at draw from concepts in all major branches of the sciences.

Emphasis is placed on the many interactions between the biosphere and human society.

Required Materials:

- A three-ring binder for marine science with paper and a folder in the binder.
- A scientific calculator. You can use a graphing calculator. Your cell phone is not an acceptable calculator.
- A pen or pencil.
- All relevant course materials as specified during class.

Failure to have these materials on a daily basis will result in a grade of "unprepared" for the day. **A modern computer with Internet access is not required, but will prove to be extremely helpful.**

Rules: We will be following the rules of the school in this class, and will also be enforcing the following:

1. Respect yourself, your classmates and the teacher in class.
2. You will have to do your own work in class to earn a passing grade.
3. **Cell phones, MP3 players, or other electronics are not permitted in class. If they are used they will be taken away until class is over. Should you refuse to hand these items over home contact and a school referral will result.**
4. Excessive and or prolonged bathroom visits will not be allowed without a doctor's note.

Grades: Your grade is based on assignments and slightly on participation. There are many kinds of assignments in this class:

Classwork: You will have class work everyday. Most will be collected and graded.

Homework: You will have daily homework assignments. Usually, these assignments will be a combination of reading assignments and small projects. Homework is due the next day, unless otherwise specified. It is important that you keep up with reading assignments and do all assigned homework.

Other homework assignments may include (but are not limited to) worksheets, pre-labs, lab reports, reading and analysis of scientific writing, etc. Homework assignments will be checked at the beginning of the next class period or collected and graded. Homework is checked or collected at the beginning of class. Late homework can earn a maximum of half credit. Homework will not be accepted more than 1 day after it is due. Homework assignments will also be posted on the class e-board and the Libretto Marine website.

Quizzes: You will have a quiz almost every Friday, and most will be announced ahead of time.

Tests: Tests are given approximately three times a quarter. Tests will have many types of questions and will be based on what we cover in class, HW and any other reading and assignments.

Labs: We will usually do at least one lab per week. You are required to complete every lab that we conduct. There will be many labs done during the course of the year. Students are expected to complete the pre-lab section (if there is one) before beginning a laboratory activity. During the lab, students are expected to complete all procedures, collect all necessary data and perform all needed calculations. All students are expected to adhere to all safety procedures when in the laboratory. **Any student who does not adhere to all safety procedures during a lab activity will receive a grade of 0 on that lab activity.** Students who have continual difficulty in following safety procedures may be barred from participating in laboratory activities until such time as they can demonstrate proper lab safety procedures.

All labs will be written up according to guidelines that we will discuss. Labs are penalized 10 points for every day they are late.

Projects: Students will be required to complete various large-scale projects during the course of the year. Requirements for projects will be discussed at the time they are assigned.

Makeup work: It is strongly recommended that you attend class every day in a timely fashion. Excessive lateness or absences will make it very difficult for you to keep up with the workload of this course. **If you are legally absent, it is your responsibility to make up all assignments.** "I was absent" is not an excuse for missing an assignment (unless I excuse you). Please discuss missed work with me as soon as you return to class. Work done during absences is due one day after your return to class. You must also make arrangements to makeup any labs, quizzes or tests as soon as you return to school. Labs must be completed by the close of the current quarter.

If your absence is unexcused, you will receive a "0" on anything we do in class on the day(s) of your absence. This includes class work, labs, quizzes and tests. You cannot make up any work that is missed due to illegal absences.

All students are provided with one copy of each class document from me. If this copy is lost, you are required to access and print a supplemental copy from the class website.

Final Exam: A quarterly exam (end of first quarter) and a course final (given during mid-year testing) will be given for this class. More details TBA.

Grading policy:

Tests/Projects	40%
Labs	10%
Quizzes	20%
Participation	15%
HW/Classwork	15%

Participation: You are expected to be prepared for class and participate every day that you are here. If you are unprepared (defined as not having the required materials for class, like a pen) you will lose points on your participation average.

Class Expectations: All Marine Science students are expected to

- Be on time
- Be ready to begin class when the bell rings
- Be prepared for class
- Participate freely
- Ask questions when confused
- Answer questions when asked
- Do all required work without complaint
- Act maturely

Field Trips: We will take several field trips during this semester. Attendance on field trips is a privilege. **If I am uncomfortable taking you on a field trip, you will not be allowed to attend.** Any students who are ineligible for attendance, discipline or academics will not be allowed to attend field trips.

Academic Honesty: You are allowed to collaborate on lab exercises. Data among lab partners is expected to be identical. With this exception, all work done in this class is expected to be original or attributed to its original source in either the MLA or APA format. Any violation of this will result in a penalty such as an automatic 0 on the assignment in question. Cheating on exams will result in an automatic 0, mandatory change of seating, academic referral and notification of parents.

Consequences: In the interest of honesty, the following is the flow chart for how I typically deal with problems in class.

Warning and Participation Penalty→Private Conference→Call home→Referral
Three or more missing assignments = Call home. Defacement of school property = Participation penalty, call home, and referral. I reserve the right to immediately remove anyone from the class who is seriously disturbing the learning process for their classmates. This is not an easy class. We only do work that is challenging and worthwhile. If you work, study, practice and participate you will be fine.

First HW – have this sheet signed by a parent. Due _____

Parent Signature_____